

# REFLECTIONS OF HER LIFE

Willie Ethel Dinkins Harris , the youngest daughter of eight children to Dinkins and Mattie (Hill) Dinkins, born on May 1, 1948 in Lower Richland County, Hopkins, South Carolina. Willie Ethel attended Siloam Baptist Church where she attended Sunday School, Vacation Bible School and church services with her family. She accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior at the age of ten years old; baptized in the creek near the church. She relocated to Philadelphia, Pa. with her oldest sister, Edna (Dinkins) Lake at age thirteen, after both her parents passed away. She continued her spiritual growth at Zion Baptist Church. Willie Ethel received her early years of education in Lower Richland Schools in Hopkins, S.C. After moving to Philadelphia she continued her education in the Philadelphia School system. Graduating from William Penn High School in 1966, she continued her education at Dobbins Technical High School where she received training in X-ray Technology. Forever seeking knowledge and willing to take on a new challenge, she received her Associate's Degree in Business Administration from Gwynedd Mercy University, Gwynedd Valley Pa. in 2005.

Business had been her central occupation and most of her world was surrounded by business opportunities. She co-owned and operated a convenience store in West Philadelphia for over fifteen years with her former husband, John L Harris(deceased). Our blended family was all a part of the business and grew up understanding the value of it and good work ethics. The children were raised in a loving home environment during those years; Patricia Ann(deceased), Joyce Lynne, John L. III, Joseph S. and Anthony T. with challenges and hope along the way. Willie Ethel worked in the Payroll Industry for over twenty-five years. She also had a plethora of business knowledge gained from other retail establishments such as Gimbels, Macy's, JC Penney, Sears & Roebuck and Wal-Mart Inc., then lastly Blue Cross & Blue Shield as claims processor. Willie Ethel truly loved serving in the church and utilized her gifts and talents as the Lord led her. For over twenty years at Alpha Baptist Church in Willingboro, NJ, she served as a Sunday School Teacher, Praise & Worship Leader, and a member of Women Reaching Women Ministry under Rev. Dr. Joseph O Bass. The Lord led her to another calling at Delaware Baptist Church of Willingboro, NJ. where she found a passion in the Drama Ministry and soon became the director. She served in Vacation Bible School, Sunday School and assisted in other ministries as she was called upon. Lastly, the Lord called her to accept the position as an ordained Deacon in February, 2019.

In 2020, as COVID-19 was spreading rampantly over the nation, Willie Ethel had a word from the Lord to return to her home in South Carolina. After settling into her new home and COVID bans were lifted, she gratefully was led to Rehoboth Baptist Church, Columbia SC, where she became a member in the Fall of 2021. and lived out her years with joy and happiness as she worked with other saints in service to the Lord. Here she found her resting place and spent her remaining years in peace.

Willie Ethel was the last surviving sibling of three brothers and four sisters who preceded her.

She leaves behind her children Joyce Lynne Harris Muwakkil (Omar), John L. Harris III (deceased), Joseph S. Harris, Anthony T. Harris (Faith). Grandchildren Rev. Dr. John L Harris IV, Brandon T. Jolly, Joy Harris, Tatjana and Taliba Muwakkil, Anthony Jackson, Camille and Adrianna Harris, Katelyn Smith, Brienna and Ava Harris. Several great grandchildren Amari, Cameron, Chase, Braelynn, and Lucah along with many nieces , nephews, cousins and friends.

# ORDER OF SERVICE

Processional Hymn Rehoboth Baptist Church Jubilee Choir

Family Viewing JP Holley Funeral Home Directors

Song..... Rehoboth Baptist Church Jubilee Choir

Scripture Readings:

Old Testament .....Reverend Kent Soles, RBC Associate

New Testament.....Reverend Dr. Yvonne Frederick RBC Associate

Prayer of Comfort..... Minister Agnes Knox, RBC Associate

Selection..... Rehoboth Baptist Church Jubilee Choir

Reflections..... Limit two minutes please

Deacon Robert Booker – RBC Church

Reverend Dr. Yvonne Frederick – RBC Church

Brandon Jolly – Grandson

Joseph Harris - Son

Resolution..... Rehoboth Baptist Church

Selection..... Rehoboth Baptist Church Jubilee Choir

Words of Comfort Reverend Dr. Christopher Betner, Pastor

Delaware Valley Baptist Church of Willingboro

Recessional..... Rehoboth Baptist Church Jubilee Choir

Committal, Benediction and Interment

Rehoboth Baptist Church Memorial Garden

4646 Hard Scrabble Road

Columbia, SC 29229

Repast to follow in the Dining Hall

4645 Hardscabble Road

Columbia, SC., 29229

*Pallbearers*  
FAMILY AND FRIENDS

*Floral Bearers*  
FAMILY AND FRIENDS

IN LOVING *Memory*

*Silent Tear*

JUST CLOSE YOUR EYES  
AND YOU WILL SEE ALL THE MEMORIES  
THAT YOU HAVE OF ME JUST SIT AND RELAX  
AND YOU WILL FIND I'M REALLY STILL  
HERE INSIDE YOUR MIND  
DON'T CRY FOR ME NOW I'M GONE FOR  
I AM IN THE LAND OF SONG  
THERE IS NO PAIN, THERE IS NO FEAR  
SO DRY AWAY THAT SILENT TEAR  
DON'T THINK OF ME IN THE DARK AND COLD  
FOR HERE I AM, NO LONGER OLD  
I'M IN THAT PLACE THAT'S FILLED WITH LOVE  
KNOWN TO ALL AS "UP ABOVE".

*Expression of Gratitude*

THE FAMILY WISHES TO THANK EACH AND EVERYONE FOR YOUR  
TELEPHONE CALLS, CARDS AND ACTS OF KINDNESS AND MANY  
EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE AND SYMPATHY.

*Willie Ethel*  
**DINKINS HARRIS**

MAY 1, 1948 - MARCH 14, 2026



CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

COLUMBIA NE CHAPEL 9010 Farrow Rd Columbia, SC 29203 803-764-0888	COLUMBIA SE CHAPEL 8132 Garners Ferry Rd Columbia, SC 29209 803-695-1666	ST. MATTHEWS CHAPEL 102 Church Street St. Matthews, SC 29135 803-874-3317	BISHOPVILLE CHAPEL 114 E Church St Bishopville, SC 29010 803-484-7245
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*Jonathan P. Holley* PRESIDENT & DIRECTOR

WWW.JPHOLLEY.COM

**FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2026 | 11:00 AM**

**REHOBOTH BAPTIST CHURCH  
4646 HARDSCABBLE ROAD, COLUMBIA, SC. 29229  
REVEREND DR. IVORY TORREY THIGPEN, PASTOR**